

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Policy for SHO in Sudan

1. Introduction

1.1. Sudan Humanitarian Organization (SHO) is committed to promoting gender equality, protecting the rights and dignity of women, girls, and all individuals, and preventing all forms of Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

1.2. This GBV Policy outlines SHO's approach to addressing GBV within its programs and operations in Sudan, in alignment with its mission, vision, and objectives, and in compliance with UN standards and international and local laws.

2. Mission, Vision, and Objectives

2.1. Mission:

- SHO strives to create a society free from GBV, where all individuals, regardless of gender, can live with dignity, safety, and respect.

2.2. Vision:

- Our vision is a Sudan where women, girls, and all individuals are empowered to exercise their rights and live free from all forms of violence and discrimination.

2.3. Objectives:

- To prevent and respond to GBV in all its forms, including sexual violence, domestic violence, harmful traditional practices, and exploitation.

- To promote gender equality and women's empowerment through education, advocacy, and community engagement.

- To strengthen institutional capacity and coordination mechanisms for GBV prevention and response.

3. Principles

3.1. Human Rights:

- Respect for the human rights, dignity, and autonomy of all individuals, irrespective of gender, age, ethnicity, or socio-economic status.

- Recognition of the right of all individuals to live free from violence and discrimination.

3.2. Gender Equality:

- Commitment to promoting gender equality and challenging harmful gender norms and stereotypes that perpetuate GBV.
- Empowerment of women and girls through access to education, economic opportunities, and decision-making processes.

4. Definitions

4.1. Gender-Based Violence (GBV):

- Any act or threat of harm inflicted on an individual based on their gender, including physical, sexual, psychological, or economic violence, coercion, or control.

4.2. Types of GBV:

- Sexual Violence: Any form of sexual act or behavior perpetrated against an individual without their consent.
- Domestic Violence: Physical, emotional, or economic abuse inflicted by a partner or family member within the home.
- Harmful Traditional Practices: Practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriage, and honor-based violence that perpetuate gender inequality and violence against women and girls.

5. Programmatic Approach

5.1. Prevention:

- Implementation of gender-sensitive programs that address underlying factors contributing to GBV, including poverty, inequality, and social norms.
- Education and awareness-raising activities to promote gender equality, human rights, and respectful relationships within communities.

5.2. Response and Support:

- Establishment of safe spaces and confidential services for survivors of GBV, including medical care, psychosocial support, and legal assistance.
- Strengthening referral pathways and coordination with relevant stakeholders, including health facilities, police, and legal authorities.

6. Capacity Building and Coordination

6.1. Training:

- Capacity building for staff, partners, and community members on GBV prevention, response, and survivor-centered approaches.
- Sensitization on gender equality, cultural sensitivity, and human rights to challenge harmful beliefs and practices.

6.2. Coordination:

- Collaboration with government agencies, UN agencies, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders to strengthen multi-sectoral response mechanisms.
- Participation in GBV coordination forums and working groups at national, regional, and local levels.

7. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

7.1. Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Regular monitoring of GBV incidents, trends, and service utilization to assess the effectiveness of interventions and identify gaps.
- Evaluation of program outcomes and impact on survivors' well-being, empowerment, and access to justice.

7.2. Learning and Adaptation:

- Utilization of lessons learned and best practices to improve the quality and responsiveness of GBV programs over time.
- Continuous engagement with communities and stakeholders to ensure relevance, inclusivity, and sustainability of interventions.

8. Conclusion

8.1. SHO remains committed to its mission of preventing and responding to GBV, promoting gender equality, and empowering women and girls in Sudan.

- This GBV Policy shall serve as a guiding framework for SHO's GBV-related activities, ensuring compliance with UN standards and international and local laws.

This policy provides a comprehensive overview of SHO's commitment to addressing GBV in Sudan while aligning with its mission, vision, and objectives.